

Application No. 09/337,789
Amdt dated August 28, 2003
Reply to Office action of April 3, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16 (canceled).

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Claim 17 (new): In an inhaler for nasal administration which comprises a reservoir holding a stable, isotonic formulation having a pH of 4.5 to 7.5 with xylometazoline hydrochloride or oxymetazoline hydrochloride or both as active substance, which formulation further comprises an adjuvant selected from sorbitol or glycerol or both and a buffer selected from an inorganic pH buffer or trometamol, and a sprayhead for nasal administration, the improvement which comprises an oligodynamically active metal or metal ions in the region between the reservoir and the sprayhead through which the formulation passes for administration, or within the reservoir.

Claim 18 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 17 wherein the formulation further comprises hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide solution or both.

Claim 19 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 17 wherein the formulation comprises sodium phosphate buffer, potassium phosphate buffer, sodium borate buffer, potassium borate buffer, or a mixture of one or more of such buffers.

Claim 20 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 17 wherein the formulation comprises a monosodium dihydrogen-disodium monohydrogen phosphate buffer, monopotassium dihydrogen-dipotassium monohydrogen phosphate buffer, or a mixture of such buffers.

Claim 21 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 17 wherein the formulation has a pH of 5.0 to 7.2.

Claim 22 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 21 wherein the formulation has a pH of 5.5 to 6.8.

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Claim 23 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 22 wherein the formulation has a pH of 5.8 to 6.0.

Claim 24 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 21 wherein the formulation has a pH of 6.1 to 6.3.

Claim 25 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 17 wherein the active substance is present in a concentration of between 0.01 and 1.0% by weight in the formulation.

Claim 26 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 25 wherein the active substance is present in a concentration of between 0.01 and 0.5% by weight in the formulation.

Claim 27 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 26 wherein the active substance is present in a concentration of between 0.05 and 0.1% by weight in the formulation.

Claim 28 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 17 wherein the formulation further comprises water as solvent.

Claim 29 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 17 wherein the formulation further comprises a mixture of ethanol and water as solvent.

Claim 30 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 17 wherein the proportion of adjuvant in the formulation is 1 to 10% by weight.

Claim 31 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 30 wherein the proportion of adjuvant in the formulation is 2 to 6% by weight.

Claim 32 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 31 wherein the proportion of adjuvant in the formulation is 3.5 to 4.5% by weight, and the adjuvant is sorbitol.

Claim 33 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 32 wherein the proportion of adjuvant in the formulation is 4.0% by weight and the adjuvant is sorbitol.

Claim 34 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 30 wherein the proportion of adjuvant in the formulation is 2.0 to 2.8% by weight, and the adjuvant is glycerol.

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Claim 35 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 34 wherein the proportion of adjuvant in the formulation is 2.4% by weight and the adjuvant is glycerol.

Claim 36 (new): The inhaler as recited in claim 17 wherein the oligodynamically active metal or oligodynamically active metal ions is silver or are silver ions.